



Susan Bysiewicz  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CONNECTICUT

**Testimony of Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz  
Government Administration & Elections Committee  
March 16, 2007**

Good Afternoon Chairman Caruso, Chairwoman Slossberg and members of the GAE Committee. For the record, my name is Susan Bysiewicz and I am the Secretary of the State. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today regarding several bills on your public hearing agenda.

First, I want to commend this Committee for consistently pursuing government reforms and for working to restore priceless public trust in light of some very difficult times that our state has faced over the past several years. Scandals in both our state and municipal governments, and in both our executive and legislative branches, have damaged our credibility in the eyes of the public.

Today, we are all here to take a positive step forward for Connecticut. As part of my overall legislative package, I have asked this Committee to raise a bill regarding the revocation of state pensions.

For that reason, I strongly support the concepts in:

**S.B. No. 43 AN ACT CONCERNING THE REVOCATION OF STATE PENSIONS FOR STATE EMPLOYEES AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS CONVICTED OF CRIMES RELATING TO STATE SERVICE.**

**S.B. No. 1183 AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENSIONS OF STATE EMPLOYEES OR PUBLIC OFFICIALS CONVICTED OF FRAUD OR CORRUPTION.**

In so many ways, Connecticut is still paying the price of the previous administration. Unfortunately, taxpayers will be paying that price for decades to come.

Currently, public officials are each eligible for hefty state pension pay-outs even after they are convicted of corrupt activities. Peter Ellef is collecting \$22,000 a year while he serves time at a federal prison. Larry Alibozek, who is under house arrest for his corrupt activities, gets \$10,500 annually. And in a few years - when

Given the rapidly growing number of Asian Pacific American residents in our State, it is important that we establish an Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission in order to better serve this population.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today and I am available to answer any questions that you may have.